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Rara

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Rara

by Kathuska Jose

They come marching down on Easter

Vaksin bind beneath their fingers
wooden sticks hammer metal pipes—
their voices chanting in unison.

Yellow flags wheeling across air
Baton scraping against *güiro*
festive feet begin to follow—

They come marching down on Easter

Definitions

Rara: a festival of music performed by Rara bands during Easter week in Haiti

Vaksin: bamboo trumpets usually made of metal

Güiro: percussion instrument; originated from the Taino Indians